

**SUSANVILLE CITY COUNCIL
SUSANVILLE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
SUSANVILLE MUNICIPAL ENERGY CORPORATION
SUSANVILLE PUBLIC FINANCING AUTHORITY**

**Regular Meeting Minutes
January 21, 2015 – 6:30 p.m.**

City Council Chambers 66 North Lassen Street Susanville CA 96130

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Brian R. Wilson.

Roll call of Councilmembers present: Kathie Garnier, Nicholas McBride, Rod E. De Boer, Lino P. Callegari and Brian R. Wilson.

Staff present: Jared G. Hancock, City Administrator and Gwenna MacDonald, City Clerk.

1 APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Councilmember De Boer, second by Councilmember Callegari, to approve the agenda as submitted; motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Garnier, McBride, Callegari, De Boer and Wilson.

2 PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING CLOSED SESSION ITEMS: No comments.

3 CLOSED SESSION: At 6:31 p.m. the Council recessed to closed session to discuss the following:

A PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT – pursuant to Government Code §54957:

- 1 Affordable Care Act
- 2 City Attorney

4 RETURN TO OPEN SESSION: At 7:00 p.m. the City Council reconvened in open session.

Staff present: Thomas Downing, Police Chief; James Moore, Fire Battalion Chief/Interim Fire Chief; Dan Newton, Public Works Director; Deborah Savage, Finance Manager and Gwenna MacDonald, City Clerk.

Mr. Hancock stated that prior to closed session the agenda was approved as submitted. In closed session Council gave direction on two items but there was no reportable action.

Chief Downing provided the thought of the day.

5 BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

Gary Felt, Lassen Chamber of Commerce, discussed the Chamber's plans to restore the Chamber of Commerce billboard located south of Susanville along Highway 395 that had been damaged during a storm a few years ago.

6 CONSENT CALENDAR: Mayor Wilson reviewed the items on the Consent Calendar:

- A Receive and file minutes from City Council's December 17, 2014 and January 7, 2015 meetings
- B Approve vendor warrants numbered 92841 through 93024 for a total of \$734,957.66 with \$109,366.17 in payroll warrants
- C Receive and file Finance Reports: December 2014

Councilmember Garnier requested a correction to the minutes of January 7, 2015 to reflect that she recused herself from discussion of Closed Session Item 3A, the negotiation of property leases at APN 103-321-02 and 103-321-03.

Motion by Councilmember De Boer, second by Councilmember Callegari, to approve the Consent Calendar with Item 6A amended as requested; motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Garnier, McBride, De Boer, Callegari and Wilson.

7 PUBLIC HEARINGS:

7A Consideration of Resolution No. 15-5132 authorizing Weed and Rubbish assessment and lien against certain real properties located within the City of Susanville: 864 Shasta APN: 107-192-10 Battalion Chief Moore reported that in accordance with Chapter 8.28 of the Susanville Municipal Code, City staff has abated the property at 864 Shasta Street due to fire hazard and rubbish nuisance for a cost of \$550.00. The cost includes hiring a contractor to abate the property and a \$200 administrative fee to recover the cost of compliance with public hearing and notification procedures. A lien notice was posted and the property owner has been notified via certified mail of the public hearing. Council approval is required to lien the property to recover the costs incurred by the City.

Mayor Wilson opened the public hearing at 7:08 p.m. and requested comments from the public. There being no comments, Mayor Wilson closed the public hearing at 7:09 p.m.

Motion by Councilmember De Boer, second by Councilmember Garnier, to approve Resolution No. 15-5132; motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Garnier, McBride, De Boer, Callegari and Wilson.

8 COUNCIL DISCUSSION/ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.
Commission/Committee Reports:

9 NEW BUSINESS:

9A Consider approval of Resolution No. 15-5135 declaring Police vehicle surplus and authorize City Staff to sell the vehicle Chief Downing explained that the Susanville Police Department has determined that a police vehicle is no longer of practical use for the operation of the Police Department and City policy requires that the City Council declare the property surplus to authorize its sale. The revenue generated from the sale of the vehicle will be credited to the police mitigation fund.

Mayor Wilson asked how many vehicles are in operation at the police department. Chief Downing responded that the department operates seven marked vehicles, four or five unmarked vehicles and one marked vehicle utilized by the Community Services officer.

Motion by Councilmember De Boer, second by Councilmember Callegari, to approve Resolution No. 15-5135; motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Garnier, McBride, De Boer, Callegari and Wilson.

9B Consider approval of Resolution No. 15-5136 establishing a No Parking zone at the intersection of Paul Bunyan Road and Ash Street Mr. Newton reported that the intersection of Paul Bunyan Road and Ash Street has been the location of at least eleven accidents over the past two years. The need to address the safety of the intersection has prompted staff to investigate possible solutions and with the assistance of engineers from Caltrans District 2, Division of Traffic Investigations, three options have been identified. These include the installation of a traffic signal, the installation of a four-way stop, or implementing measures to improve sight distance and decrease speeds.

Mr. Newton explained that in order to pursue the option of installing a traffic signal, the California Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices requires that certain criteria be met. According to Caltrans, the crash history has not been met. Caltrans has also indicated that to install a signal, additional Right of Way would be needed for left turn pockets. The cost of installing a traffic signal could exceed \$750,000, and the City would be required to pay half the cost. Additional study utilizing traffic cameras would be required prior to the installation of a four way stop. Caltrans would require assurance that the City would be interested in pursuing the option of a four way stop, if warranted, prior to conducting the study.

Mr. Newton continued that option three, or the incremental approach, would improve the sight distance at the intersection by the elimination of approximately five parking spaces in front of the optometrist office on the northwest corner and removal of the juniper bushes on the southeast corner, in front of the orthopedic surgeon's office. Caltrans would also reduce the speed limit at the intersection from 35 mph to 30 mph. Caltrans has requested that the City take the lead on the elimination of parking and facilitate the removal of the juniper bushes located along Ash Street. Caltrans will place "no parking" signs and the City would paint the curb red. The cost for staff resources and materials to complete this option are included in the existing street budget.

Mr. Newton concluded by stating that the City may wish to pursue signal installation at the intersection. The 8-hour volume warrant has been met however safety dollars from Caltrans do not appear to be an option at this time, however other funding programs may be available. Staff will work to identify additional funding sources and pursue signal installation at Council's direction.

Dr. George Barakat stated that he supported the incremental approach including removal of parking spaces and the existing juniper bushes. He stated that RV's will park across the street from the Frosty Mill and it eliminates all of the sight distance. All of the businesses have parking lots, and he suggested trying it for six months as a trial.

Councilmember De Boer spoke in favor of the incremental approach, and cautioned against the installation of a four-way stop.

Councilmember Callegari supported that option as well.

Councilmember Garnier agreed, adding that the congestion created by a four way stop would create even more problems at the intersection.

Mr. Newton concluded by acknowledging that it is a sensitive issue when the City proposes to remove parking from the businesses in the area, but he has spent time meeting with the business owners and discussing the challenges and goal to improve safety at the intersection, and everyone has been receptive. The Police Chief has the authority to designate red zones to prohibit parking.

Motion by Councilmember Garnier, second by Councilmember De Boer to approve Resolution No. 15-5136; motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Garnier, McBride, De Boer, Callegari and Wilson.

Mr. Hancock requested that Item 9C be tabled until the next meeting.

9C Consider approval of Resolution No. 15-5137 approving maintenance agreement with Thompson Garage Doors

10 **SUSANVILLE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY:** No business.

11 **SUSANVILLE MUNICIPAL ENERGY CORPORATION:** No business.

12 **CONTINUING BUSINESS:** No business.

13 **CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS:**

13A **Leap Ahead Learning Letter of Appreciation** Mr. Hancock reported that after the City conducted its surplus sale, there were numerous items left including play equipment and items that could be useful for preschools. Staff contacted the child care providers in the area, informing them that on November 20, 2014 the City would make the items available for donation. Leap Ahead Learning took advantage of the opportunity and took the majority of the items. Leap Ahead Learning owner Tandra Bowles sent a letter of appreciation to the City Council thanking them for the donation.

14 **COUNCIL ITEMS:**

14A **AB1234 travel reports:**

A AB1234 travel reports:

Councilmember Callegari provided an update regarding his attendance at the most recent meeting of ACCAPS, and shared information regarding the local committee dedicated to bringing a dialysis center to Susanville.

15 **ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by Councilmember De Boer, second by Councilmember Callegari to adjourn; motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Garnier, McBride, De Boer, Callegari and Wilson.

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Brian R. Wilson, Mayor

Gwenna MacDonald, City Clerk

Approved on: February 18, 2015